

**REMARKS**

In response to the Office Action mailed February 20, 2004, solely for the purpose of advancing prosecution of this case and without addressing the veracity of the Examiner's election requirement, Applicants hereby elect to prosecute Species A (Figure 16B) without traverse. Applicants submit that at least Claims 1-13, 25-33, 39, and 41-42 read on the species elected species. Applicants, therefore, withdraw Species B (Claims 14-24, 34-38, and 40) from the above-identified patent application without prejudice or disclaimer. This election is made to expedite issuance of a patent from this Application. Applicants do not necessarily agree with or acquiesce to the Examiner's conclusion reflected in the Office Action.

CONCLUSION


Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and full allowance of all pending Claims.

Applicants do not believe that any additional fees are due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

If the Examiner feels that a conference would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, Douglas M. Kubehl stands willing to conduct such a telephone interview at the convenience of the Examiner. Mr. Kubehl may be reached at 214-953-6486.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.  
Attorneys for Applicants

  
Douglas M. Kubehl  
Reg. No. 41,915

Date: 3-16-04

Correspondence Address:

X Customer Number

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